

MARYLAND TRAUMA PHYSICIAN SERVICES FUND

Physician Information Bulletin #3

NEWS & NOTES	MHCC Policy Guidance
	<h3>About On-Call Reimbursement</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Definition of "On-call Care" as it relates to reimbursement under the Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund. Level II and Level III Trauma Centers may receive disbursement from the Fund to maintain the minimum number of physicians required to be on-call, as specified by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System (Miemss). ◆ Eligibility Level II / Level III Trauma Centers may submit an application for reimbursement of on-call services incurred within the center's current fiscal year. Application is due within 30 days after the end of the On-call reporting cycle. Level II / Level III Trauma Centers must report the stipends paid to trauma physicians retained for on-call services during the reporting cycle according to the outline provided in the "Maryland Trauma Fund Semi-Annual On-Call Trauma Services Application." ◆ On-Call Payment Disbursement ◆ Level II Trauma Centers are eligible for a disbursement that is the lesser of actual costs or a payment derived by taking the minimum number of trauma physicians required to be on-call according to MIEMSS criteria for Level II Trauma Centers and multiplying that number by a reimbursement ceiling. The reimbursement ceiling is calculated at a rate of up to 20% of the reasonable compensation equivalents hourly rate for the specialty, inflated to the current year by the physician compensation component of the Medicare Economic Index as designated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, multiplied by 8,760 hours. EXAMPLE: Four Level II trauma centers are eligible to receive on-call payments: Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center; Sinai Hospital of Baltimore; Prince George's Hospital Center; and Suburban Hospital. ◆ Level III Trauma Centers are eligible for a disbursement that is the lesser of actual costs and a payment derived by taking the minimum number of trauma physicians required to be on-call according to MIEMSS criteria for Level III Trauma Centers and multiplying that number by the reimbursement ceiling. The reimbursement ceiling is calculated at a rate of up to 30% of the reasonable compensation equivalents hourly rate for the specialty, inflated to the current year by the physician compensation component of the Medicare Economic Index as designated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, multiplied by 8,760 hours.

NEWS & NOTES

APPLICATION REVIEW WORKSHOPS PLANNED

This is an opportunity for applicants to bring partially or completed Uncompensated Care and On-call applications for MHCC staff review and guidance.

SUBURBAN HOSPITAL
The Atrium, 2nd floor
 April 22nd, 1 – 3pm

MHCC Public Meeting Room in Baltimore
 April 26th, 1 – 3pm

ROBINWOOD MEDICAL CENTER, Room 122
 April 28th, 1 – 3pm



◆ **MHCC** to award auditing contract in March 2004 for uncompensated care and on-call application audits to begin in June.

◆ **Uncompensated Care & On-Call applications** for services provided between October 1, 2003 & March 31, 2004 can be submitted between April 1st and April 31st.

◆ Maryland **Medicaid** paid the first Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund claim in January.

◆ **MVA** collected approximately \$6.1 million for the Fund as of February.



For More Information

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EXAMPLE: Three Level III trauma centers are eligible to receive on-call payments: Peninsula Regional Medical Center; Washington County Hospital; and Western Maryland Health System, Memorial Hospital.

- ◆ Table 1 lists the maximum on-call disbursements available for each category of center. Reimbursements are higher for Level III Trauma Centers because the law specifies that Level III Trauma Centers are paid up to 30 percent of the CMS reasonable compensation equivalent rates, and Level II Trauma Centers are paid at 20 percent.

Table 1: Maximums for On-Call Payments based on CMS Reasonable Compensation Equivalents as of August 1, 2003

Specialty	NonMetro-Cumberland Peninsula	Metropolitan areas less than one million (Hagerstown)	Metropolitan areas greater than one million (Baltimore-Washington)
Level II Trauma Centers			
Anesthesiology			168,714
Neurosurgery, Orthopedic Surgery			350,400
Level III Trauma Centers			
Anesthesiology	211,630	253,071	
Neurosurgery, Orthopedic Surgery	693,261	773,618	
TOTAL:	904,891	1,026,689	519,114